By the King.

¶ A Proclamation for better furniſhing the Nauy, and Shipping of the Realme, with able and ſkilfull Mariners.

WHereas the moſt Excellent, High and Mighty Prince, King IAMES, of moſt noble and bleſſed memory, Our moſt deare and Royall Father, out of his princely and prouident care of the ſafety and honour of his Kingdomes and people, and for the continuance and maintaining of the Nauigation of this Realme, and to the intent that ſkilfull Mariners, and Sea faring men might be alwayes in readineſſe, to furniſh, as well his owne Royall Navie as the Shipping of his louing Subiects, did by Proclamation, dated the ſixth day of Auguſt, in the twentieth yeere of his Reigne, ſtraitly inhibite and forbid, That no Mariner, or Sea-faring man, Ship-Wright, or Ship carpenter whatſoeuer, being his Subiect, ſhould without expreſſe Licence of himſelfe, or his Admirall of England, enter, or attempt, or goe about to enter into the Seruice of any forraine Prince or State, or be employed out of this Realme, in any Seruice whatſoeuer, vnleſſe it were in the Seruice of the ſaid late King, Our moſt deare Father, or of ſome of his liege Subiects: And did afterwards by a later Proclamation, dated the ſeuen and twentieth day of February, then following, further ſtraitly charge and command, That no Mariner, or Sea-faring man ſhould abſent, hide, or withdraw himſelfe from his late Maieſties Seruice or Preſts, and that all ſuch perſons hauing Preſt-money giuen, or tendered vnto them, ſhould duetifully, and reuerently receiue the ſame, and repaire aboard the Ships appointed, and continue in that Seruice, as to the duety of good Subiects appertained, and not withdraw themſelues, or depart there-from, without ſpeciall Licence: And did lately by another Proclamation, bearing date the twentieth day of this inſtant moneth of March, likewiſe ſtraitly inhibite and forbid, That no Owner or Maſter of any Ship or Veſſell, nor any other, ſetting foorth any veſſels of Trade, Fiſhing, or otherwiſe, ſhould hire, or entertaine any Mariner, or Sea-faring man, knowing him to haue offended againſt either of the ſayd Proclamations: and if ſuch Owner, or other perſon, not knowing of the ſayd offences, ſhould hire or entertaine any ſuch offender or offenders, did will and command, That foorthwith, vpon notice of any the ſayd offences, they ſhould deliuer ſuch offenders ouer vnto the next Iuſtice of Peace, Maior, Bayliffe, Conſtable, or other Officer, to be impriſoned, vntil the ſayd offenders ſhould giue ſufficient Bond and Caution, for their forth-comming and appearance, in ſuch Court, or place of Iuſtice, vnto which it might appertaine, to haue them proceeded againſt and puniſhed, according to their demerites, and withall, that the ſayd Maſters, Owners, and other perſons, ſhould forbeare to pay to the ſayd offenders any wages.

No marrmer or Ship-wright to enter into ye ſeruice of a foraigne prince without licence.

not to absent themſelues to auoyd preſſing without licence

What course to be taken with ſuch offenders.

31 March 1625

Steele 1410(1)
STC 9762

And did further thereby straitly charge and command all Lieutenants, Deputy-Lieutenants, Iuſtices of Peace, Maiors, Bayliffes, Conſtables, Cuſtomers, Comptrollers, ſearchers, and officers, aſwell of the Admiralty, as of the Ports, and alſo all and euery perſon and perſons, to whom any Commiſſion, Deputation, or Letters of Aſſiſtance ſhould be directed, for the preſſing of Mariners, and Seafaring men for publique ſeruice, that they ſhould from time to time vſe all poſſible diligence, and indeauour, to apprehend, and cauſe to bee apprehended, aſwell all ſuch Mariners and Seafaring men, offending, as aforeſaid, as alſo all ſuch Owners, Maſters, and others, as ſhould entertaine or hire them, or pay them any wages, or otherwiſe helpe them to eſcape the hands of Iuſtice; and ſuch as they ſhould apprehend, they ſhould, with Certificate of their names and offences, binde ouer to appeare before the Commiſſioners of His Maieſties Nauie, in London, to be by them committed, and deliuered ouer to the ordinary courſe of Iuſtice, either in the Court of Starre-chamber, or of the Admiralty, or otherwiſe, as the quality of the offence ſhould require, With ſpeciall charge and commandement to all Preſt maſters, and their Aſſiſtants, that they ſhould publiſh the names of all ſuch, as ſhould bee preſted by them in the Ports where they ſhould be taken, as alſo deliuer a note of their names to the officers of the Ports, and others who were fitteſt to diſcouer them, if they ſhould faile in the performance of their duties, As in and by the ſaid ſeuerall Proclamations more at large appeareth.

Now We, hauing taken the premiſſes into Our Princely conſideration, and aduiſed ſeriouſly thereof with Our Priuy Councell, finding how neceſſary it is, both for the ſafety and honour of this Our Kingdome and State, That all the ſeuerall Proclamations before mentioned ſhould bee put in due execution, for preuenting and ſuppreſſing the manifold abuſes, contempts, and neglects heretofore committed in ſeruices of ſo weighty conſequence; Doe hereby ſtraitly charge and command, that all the ſaid Proclamations, and euery branch and article therein conteined, bee continued at all times hereafter, and be from time to time hereafter carefully obſerued, and put in exact execution, as fully, and effectually, as the ſame ſhould, or might haue bene in the life time of Our ſaid deare Father, vpon the paines and penalties ſpecified in the ſaid Proclamations, and ſuch further puniſhments, as by Our Lawes or Prerogatiue Royall may be inflicted vpon the offenders: continued

Letting all Our louing Subiects hereby know, That, as Our ſaid moſt deare and Royal Father, in the publiſhing of the laſt of the ſaid Proclamations, had a gracious eye vnto the ſpecial ſeruice then intended, and to be now ſhortly performed; So We reſt aſſured, that none of Our ſaid Subiects in the aduancement thereof (ſo much concerning the ſafety of Our Kingdomes and Our Imperiall Crowne and Dignity) Wilbe wanting to doe their vttermoſt in making Vs ſuch a ſupply, as may giue teſtimony of their extraordinary care, faithfulnes, and dutifull affection towards Vs, who had much rather haue cauſe to expreſſe Our gracious acceptance thereof at their hands, then be enforced to any other courſe, which the neceſſity and importance of Our ſeruice will otherwiſe require.

Giuen at Our Court at Saint Iames, the one and thirtieth day of March, in the firſt yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God ſaue the King.

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